



## MINUTES

4 October 2018

9830 Patuxent Woods Drive, Room 337  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

Attendance: Lisa Terry, Jan Agazio, Robert Gillette, Bob Lowell, Wanda Riddle, Craig Porterfield, Bob Moore, Reg Avery, Mike Blum  
Guests: Tom Glenn, Shelby Rogers, Pam Cook, Bob Berlett, Lou Schott, Ed Hall, Yale Stenzler and Bob Pelletier

Pre-Meeting to discuss the Veterans Fair April 8<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 PM, in RCF building. Lisa visited the site and previewed the space on the 4th floor at HCC. Tables will go around the walls and in the center. Outside of room is a lobby area where we will set up food and drinks. Lisa will be looking for donation(s) to offer food to all attendees, volunteers and vendors. The vendor is limited to Sodexo since they are contractor for HCC. Premier health will offer free screenings for diabetes, dental, and blood pressure. Voices of Vets will be asked to do a few songs. We are looking for a dynamic keynote speaker for about a 5-10 min talk to start off the event. Breakout sessions will be tough due to space limitations. Lisa suggested doing the kickoff in a side room where chairs could be set up and then using the space for screenings to follow. Space is limited so employment tables and Library of Congress interviews will need to be carefully considered.

We will need to push out advertisement. Chris volunteered to post flyers around NSA and Lisa will look into Facebook advertising and posting on commission page. Lisa met with the representative for the Veterans group at HCC. Currently the president of the group has full load and is reorganizing internally. There are 500 military connected students at HCC; 200 active veterans. The group has started a blog and having a meeting and the president will share information about the fair. Lisa also visited and invited the Lincoln Tech students who have 40-50 veteran as students. She has also reached out to include the American Legion and VFW. Tom will get the word out to his readers.

Tom will do breakout session if needed (fall of Saigon; PTSD previously)

The group discussed other ideas for advertising the fair. With roughly 20,000 vets in HC, Chris will see if he can discern more stats about who our vets are to target exhibits and topics for breakout sessions.

Main Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Wanda Riddle. Attendees, members, and guests were introduced.

Minutes from September meeting reviewed and approved. Future commission dates Nov 1 and Dec 6. Usually we use the December meeting for a social gathering. Jan will check Eggspectations and Bob L will check Bare Bones for private room to hold the meeting.

Howard County Veterans Day parade will be Sunday, November 11. Bob Gillette gave updates. Route has been finalized to begin at new Medstar and route will move down Little Patuxent past Symphony Road to road across from Mall entrance down to south entrance to Whole Foods and circle to avoid interfering with their parking to come back up to Little Patuxent to make way over to lake front. Step off for the parade will be 0930 with the ceremony starting at approximately 1030. A moment of silence will be held at 11:11am. Bob G, County Exec and Teresa Mills will be speaking along with a performance by a local youth choir and presentation of colors by Atholton JROTC color guard. The details are still being worked out for vendors and lakeside ceremony. If wanting to participate in parade, need to go to [Howardcountyveterans.org/parade](http://Howardcountyveterans.org/parade) to register. The Commission is already registered as parade walkers. Wanda will get flyer out to commission group.

Veterans Day Teacher Resource Guide was sent out for feedback to commission and deadline for review is October 5. Lisa needs to know about additions/revisions. She will send out to school system to use to plan their own Veterans Day events. She would like to have another school pilot the vet in school presentation. Peter Gaylord at Clarksville Middle was contacted by Bob Moore who will start to discuss what to do there on Monday. Greg Jolissaint offered to serve as a speaker if needed. Lisa will send out information on the program to community superintendents to get word out and to director of communications.

Veterans Monument Foundation update was provided by Bob Gillette. He received 501c(3) designation letter from IRS. A meeting is scheduled on October 12<sup>th</sup> with Howard Hughes to look at the initial site development plan. Oct 23, a public comment session is scheduled at Slayton House. Hopefully we will hear soon about what Howard Hughes will be funding at the site for the land development.

Mental health initiative update provided by Wanda. Per Kelly Kesler with Health Dept. recommendation, 3 commission members and Lisa took the training in Mental Health First Aid. The course teaches how best to interact with someone displaying symptoms of mental issues (interact, assess, get to right resources). The program is presented by Howard County Hospital and free to county residents. The next step is participation in the Mental Health Association of MD's module that is specific for veterans and military families. Currently the nearest location in for that course is in Reston. A certified instructor in the first aid course and the military module could present the course in our area. Craig will connect the person who has the certification. Lisa posted link to courses in her bulletin and also found in Howard County wellness center.

Wanda will send out information and register commission as member Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC). Bob Moore and Janice interested in representing commission.

Joint Military Council of Howard County update provided by Ed. Ed announced passing of **Lance Corporal James Dixon** and will be will give a presentation at viewing tomorrow and will attend the funeral. He announced that Saturday they will hold a flag retirement at VFW at 1000 to prepare the flags and then retire around noon. Honor Flights will take vets from Maryland to see the monuments in DC. Bob Moore is making contacts with schools to set up presentations for Veterans Day and Ed is putting out calls for more speakers. He invited the commission to the Marine Corp birthday ball at the VFW on Nov 10 and to parade on November 11. On Nov 18 Colonel Lou Schott, invites participation in 20 rounds, 20 min, \$20 shooting competition at AGC gun range on Marriottsville Road.

Annual report draft is coming up by end of year for submission. Wanda solicits input on any activities by commissioners representing the commission to go into report. Please send information to Lisa, Wanda, or Howard. The report should capture representation and what we have been doing. Also please send any photos.

Need decision on Christmas party by next month.

Veterans Day Activities for Howard County: Shelby and Robert going out to Glenwood 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade on Friday before Veterans Day as a unit from post 7472. Century High School in Sykesville has program open to community. St. Paul's Church in Ellicott City has an 1100 Veterans service for vets from their parish.

Recognition Award program considerations: Lisa sent out final program description that will recognize above and beyond support to commission. She needs ideas for honorees.

Other items: Bob Lowell checked with the Judge. No current movement for Veterans court in Howard County.

Action items:

Recon on Christmas Party

Flyer out on parade

Feedback on business certification

Info to commission on mental health initiative

Review of Veterans Day Teacher Resource Guide

Feedback for annual report

The meeting was adjourned by Wanda at 8:15.

Submitted by Janice Agazio